

# ANSWERING THE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT GOING SOLAR



In Australia it makes good sense to get your hot water free from the sun. Using the abundant available solar energy to heat your water means less energy you have to pay for compared to an electric or gas water heater. Energy savings also mean a reduction in harmful greenhouse gas emissions.

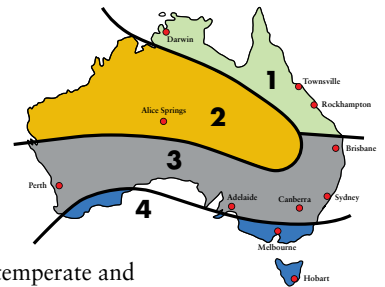
Solahart is Australia's favourite manufacturer of solar water heaters with over 55 years experience in providing Hot Water Free From The Sun. We often get asked about going solar, so here are the answers to some of the more frequently asked questions to help you evaluate if a Solahart water heater is right for you.

## HOW MUCH WILL A SOLAHART WATER HEATER SAVE ME?

This will vary depending on which part of Australia you live in, your current hot water system and hot water consumption, the model of Solahart you install, the orientation and inclination of the system and of course your fuel tariff.

For example, by installing a Solahart 302LCSC, one of our most efficient models, you can cut your water heating energy consumption by up to 85%\* in the hotter parts (Zone 2) of the country, up to 70%\* in the temperate and tropical parts (Zones 1 & 3) and up to 55%\* in the cooler parts (zone 4).

Maximum financial savings off your hot water bill are achievable when replacing an electric water heater on continuous tariff.



## WHAT ARE THE ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS OF A SOLAHART WATER HEATER?

Water heating accounts for around 25% of the average household's energy usage. Getting your hot water free from the sun not only saves energy, it also saves the greenhouse gas emissions that would have been produced in the generation of that energy. By replacing an electric storage water heater with a Solahart you can reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to 3 to 3.4 tonnes a year\*, the equivalent of taking a small car off the road. In fact solar water heaters are so good for the environment that Renewable Energy Certificates and some Government incentives exist to make it easier to get into solar hot water.

## WHAT ARE RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATES (RECs)?

Each REC represents the equivalent of one megawatt hour of electricity generation from an accredited renewable energy source. For solar water heaters each REC represents the displacement by solar energy of one megawatt hour of electricity generation from a non-renewable energy source. The installation of a solar or heat pump water heater in your property may be eligible for the creation of REC's. The financial benefit from assigning your right to create REC's for your solar or heat pump water heater installation can be used to reduce the purchase price of your new Solahart. The number of REC's which may be created varies with the model of solar or heat pump water heater and the region in which the unit is installed. The value of a REC is not fixed and varies from 'time to time'. Further information on REC's, including the number of REC's for each domestic Solahart water heater and their current value, is available from our website.

## WHAT GOVERNMENT REBATES ARE AVAILABLE?

Some state governments and the federal government in Australia offer rebates to encourage the use of solar water heating. The Federal Government is offering a \$1000 rebate if you replace your existing electric storage water heater with a solar water heater or \$600 if you replace it with a heat pump water heater. Each rebate has differing eligibility requirements. To find out what rebates will apply to you, contact your local Solahart expert or check the list and links on our website.

## HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO PAY FOR ITSELF?

Financial payback will vary depending on your circumstances, but with the available incentives plus the ongoing energy savings you can begin to recoup your additional investment straight away when you remain connected to the same fuel tariff. After you recover your initial investment, the savings are yours to spend on yourself and your family, year after year.

## DOES A SOLAHART TAKE LONG TO INSTALL?

If your current hot water system breaks down Solahart can have you back in hot water within 24 hours in most instances.

## WHY DO SOLAR WATER HEATERS HAVE BOOSTERS?

All solar water heaters include gas or electric boosters to ensure you have hot water even during the colder, darker days of winter and on those rainy days we have from time to time. By selecting the right Solahart model for your area and your family's hot water usage patterns, you can ensure you minimise the need to use the booster.

## WHICH SOLAHART IS RIGHT FOR US?

The best Solahart unit for your needs will depend on the following key factors:

- The amount of available sun
- Is the area prone to frost?
- The water chemistry in your area
- How many people in the home & their typical hot water usage

To choose the best water heater for your family, call your local Solahart expert who will help you pick the right unit for your current and future circumstances.

## IS THERE AN ALTERNATIVE TO PUTTING THE TANK ON THE ROOF?

Solahart's range of Streamline Split System solar water heaters allows you to enjoy all the benefits of Solahart's advanced solar technology - without the tank on the roof. The Solahart Streamline system locates the low profile collectors on your roof, with the tank installed at ground level. Alternatively you can choose a Solahart heat pump which uses heat pump technology to extract heat from the surrounding air, without solar collectors at all.

## WHAT IS SOLAHART SMARTPAY?

Solahart SmartPay is a simple payment plan, which allows you to spread your payments over 12 or 18 months and pay no interest – EVER. There are no credit checks and a quick over the phone approval process then, with a deposit of just 25%, you can be enjoying all the benefits of Solahart hot water while you make convenient fortnightly payments over the following 12 or 18 months. Solahart SmartPay is provided by Certegy Australia to approved customers.



## HOW DO I FIND OUT MORE?

For more information on Solahart water heaters visit our website – [www.solahart.com.au](http://www.solahart.com.au)  
or call your nearest Solahart expert on 1300 769 475.

